



First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) Weekly Update to the State Single Points of Contact (SPOCs) – March 2, 2015

FirstNet News

- FirstNet has launched two new webpages: one for [speaker requests](#) and one on the [programmatic environmental impact statements](#). Going forward, please use the speaker request form to request FirstNet presentations at your meetings and conferences.
- The User Advocacy team conducted the Wyoming initial consultation meeting on February 25.
- FirstNet completed the February regional SPOC calls with 46 states and territories participating. Discussion has focused on draft data collection activities as well as updates on federal consultation and the upcoming release of the draft RFP and a second public notice.
- We conducted tribal outreach, including presentations at the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Executive Council Winter Session (ECWS), the Native American Infrastructure Association (NAIA), and Oglala Sioux Tribe, among others.
- Federal outreach included a meeting with a cross-section of Department of Justice (DOJ) technicians and operational managers responsible for communications capabilities. Overall, the FirstNet update was provided with a very high level of interest in the more technical discussions and background provided by CTO. We participated in a White House working session hosted by DOJ on the proposed structure for the new body camera grant program and attended the ECPC executive committee meeting.
- Last week, FirstNet also participated in National Emergency Number Association's (NENA) 9-1-1 Goes to Washington, the International Association of Black Professional Firefighters/Black Chief Officers Committee (BCOC), the NATE Unite 2015 Conference and Exposition, the National States Informational Geographic Council Conference, the Region V Pre-Consultation Meeting and the IACP State Association of Chiefs and Mid-Sized Cities Combined Conference.
- This week, FirstNet will be participating in a California Town Hall, the Industry Council for Emergency Response Technologies (iCERT) and First Responder Network Security Summit, the Arkansas consultation meeting, the Pennsylvania Southcentral

Regional meeting, the National Fire Protection Association Board meeting and the Fraternal Order of Police Board meeting.

- Joe Martinet joined the FirstNet team as the Director of Devices. He brings more than 15 years of experience in the cellular and satellite telecommunications device development and operations fields. Joe is a graduate of Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, IL with a BSEE. Highlights of his time in the private sector include:
 - Technical Director at LightSquared for the first data devices that combined the terrestrial LTE standard and EGAL satellite Qualcomm technologies.
 - Test Director at TerreStar for the successful completion of the first ever satellite VoIP call over GMR1 3G (GSM based) technologies utilizing a standard size smartphone.
 - While at Sprint/Nextel, Joe managed the development and launch of the first ever handsets combining Motorola iDEN PTT with Qualcomm CDMA data and voice technologies.
 - Joe also was a Systems Performance Supervisor and RF Operations Manager earlier in his career at Nextel in Chicago.
- The consultation schedule and tracker is now on the FirstNet website: <http://firstnet.gov/consultation/meetings>.
- Confirmed upcoming initial consultation meetings are: Arkansas (3/4), Massachusetts (3/12), Nebraska (3/18-3/19), Washington DC (3/26), South Dakota (4/1), Missouri (4/7), New York (4/20), North Carolina (4/23), South Carolina (4/30), West Virginia (5/5), Virgin Islands (5/19), Maine (5/20), Idaho (5/21), New Hampshire (6/9), Ohio (6/11), Vermont (6/16), Kansas (6/17), Wisconsin (6/18), California (6/23-25), Illinois (7/14), Alabama (7/15), Georgia (7/21), Pennsylvania (8/4), Hawaii (8/12), Indiana (8/26) and New Jersey (9/3).
- To date, FirstNet has received completed consultation checklists from 47 of 56 states and territories: Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Guam, Hawaii, New Hampshire, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Virgin Islands, Utah, Vermont, Washington, Washington DC, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming.
- The next FirstNet Board and Committee meetings will be **March 24-25** at the Department of Commerce headquarters building in Washington, DC. More information regarding registration and the agenda will be forthcoming.

From the States and PSAC Organizations

- We held kick off calls for the PSAC priority and preemption and public safety grade task teams on 2/26 and 2/27.
- The PSAC organizations are in the process of providing their recommendations to FirstNet for PSAC representation for the February 2015-2017 term.

Media Watch

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Traditional Media

Media coverage was moderate compared to previous weeks, and the FirstNet topics included public notice plans and the three year anniversary of FirstNet being signed into law. Key stories from this week include:

Urgent Communications: Three Years After Its Creation, It Is Time for FirstNet to Begin Making Key Decisions

<http://urgentcomm.com/blog/three-years-after-its-creation-it-time-firstnet-begin-making-key-decisions>

Three years after being established by Congress, FirstNet has not made as much deployment progress as many public-safety and industry officials had hoped. However, most of the main components appear to be in place, so 2015 should see the FirstNet board make key decisions about the much-anticipated nationwide broadband network for first responders.

TR Daily: FirstNet to Look at Public Safety Entity Definition in Further Notice

The First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) plans to issue another public notice further exploring issues related the definition of public safety entity, a FirstNet official said today at the National Emergency Number Association's 911 Goes to Washington event. Vicki Lee, FirstNet's association manager, said at today's event that FirstNet plans to issue a public notice that will solely further explore issues and interpretations related to the definition of public safety entity. She said she did not know when the public notice would be released. Regarding a potential stand-alone public notice on the definition of public safety entity, FirstNet spokesman Ryan Oremland told TRDaily later today that it

was a "key issue that is under consideration for future public notices. But there are many factors that will shape the final 'when' and 'what', including FirstNet Board input and approval." He also noted that the definition of public safety entity generated the most comments of any issue in response to the first public notice, with 80% of entities mentioning it.

EMS World: Update on the Progress of the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet)

<http://www.emsworld.com/article/12047258/update-on-the-progress-of-the-first-responder-network-authority-firstnet>

The First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) represents a sea-change in the way EMS and other public safety entities communicate with one another. And that improved interoperability will lead to faster, more efficient patient care. In the "How FirstNet Can Help EMS Provide Better Patient Care" webinar, hosted Thursday, February 19, by NHTSA's Office of EMS (OEMS) as part of its ongoing EMS Focus: A Collaborative Federal Webinar Series, FirstNet experts discussed why FirstNet's effort to build a public safety broadband network is important to EMS systems across the nation. The webinar featured presentations by Kevin McGinnis, a FirstNet Board member and Amanda Hilliard, director of outreach for FirstNet. McGinnis currently heads Maine's North East Mobile Health Services and is a nationally recognized advocate for broadband communications within the EMS community.

Social Media

Social media discussions about FirstNet focused on the consultation and outreach, and how FirstNet can help improve EMS operations. We posted a couple blogs this past week on consultation efforts. Additional blogs can be found here: <http://www.firstnet.gov/newsroom/blog>. The FirstNet Twitter account continues to grow steadily, with more than 1,757 followers; LinkedIn 546; Google+ 28; and YouTube has 91 subscribers.

The Myers Model Blog: FirstNet -- Why is Net Neutrality and Title II important to Public Safety Broadband?

<http://advancingtelecom.blogspot.com/2015/02/firstnet-why-is-net-neutrality-and.html>

Why would FirstNet be interested in Title II and Net Neutrality? The basis for understanding is quite simple: Public Safety is the catalyst and anchor tenant for a new hardened infrastructure that can support broadband to everyone. Commercial broadband access is just a derivative of the hardened requirements. FirstNet needs all the partners it can gather, but they also need control of its implementation, at least to a point where the baseline, hardened, protected infrastructure is built and implemented and everyone else's needs are applications that ride within it.